

Robert
M

61-7566

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

REY:LEM:IS

TO : Mr. D. M. Ladd

DATE: August 26, 1944

FROM : J. F. Buckley

SUBJECT: ROBERT M.

Take off

You will recall that a technical surveillance has been conducted on Robert M. for the past several months and that a constant log has been kept of his activities during this period of time. A review has been made of the information gained through this surveillance, and it is not believed that this surveillance should be continued in the future. As you know, this technical surveillance has not been authorized by the Attorney General.

A review of the logs of the surveillance reflects that Robert M. has made statements upon many occasions to other Government agencies and individuals that his lines are tapped and this in itself might in the future elicit inquiries. It will be recalled that this surveillance was originally established to determine whether Robert M. would write a book of experiences with the Bureau in order that the Bureau might be adequately informed as to any derogatory treatment of the Bureau in his writings. It is not believed that Robert M. is likely to write such a book as the idea has been turned down by every publisher he has contacted. He has not prepared a manuscript of this book but has written several articles for magazines, many of which articles have been published. All of his public comments in his magazine articles and his radio addresses are generally favorable to the FBI.

It should also be pointed out that the character of Robert M. is most dubious and that the information gained from him cannot be considered as reliable. There have been many instances come to light wherein Robert M. has either planted or falsified information he has given to others and there are several instances on record wherein Robert M. engaged in double dealing.

Conversations dealing with subjects wherein the Bureau might have an interest are always guided by Robert M., who talks by innuendo, and there have been many instances wherein the log of an entire conversation will reflect no identifying data and it can be seen from the review of the conversation that Robert M. has definitely attempted to cover up any outright statements which might serve to give any information to the Bureau.

It should also be pointed out that the miscellaneous information which is gained from the surveillance has little or no investigative value to the Bureau as it consists mainly of charges leveled by Robert M. against other individuals, the proof of which charges is never made known. The information thus gained is of such a nature that it cannot be presented as evidence.

To further demonstrate this matter it should be pointed out that Robert M. will make arrangements to call from public phones or will arrange appointments whenever information of importance is to be passed. The most recent example was reflected in a conversation of Robert M. on June 5, 1944, at which time Robert M. stated to a Mr.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/6/83 BY SP-4EW/601

Memo Mr. Ladd
10-4-44

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Memo for Mr. Ladd

Brun, "Listen, you don't want me to go to jail, do you?" and then stated, "Whosoever divulges to an unauthorized person information that has come to him through official channels pertaining to the internal security of the United States, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 and imprisoned for not more than 20 years." A little further in the conversation Robert M. said, "Because if you open your mouth about it you're not only not going to help yourself, you're going to put me in trouble."

It is respectfully suggested at this time that consideration be given to discontinuing this surveillance. It will eliminate considerable work on the part of Agent personnel in NY as well as supervisory time expended at the Seat of Government on analyzing logs on all conversations of interest and the preparation occasionally of memoranda.

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